JUN 1 1948

TEXAS LIBRARIES

ISSUED MONTHLY BY THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY, STATE CAPITOL, AUSTIN

TEXAS LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL COMMISSION: GOVERNING BOARD OF THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
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ADELE MITCHELL, LOAN AND GENERAL REFERENCE LIBRARIAN. MRS. ROBERT H. WILSON, DIRECTOR OF EXTENSION

Volume 13 June, 1948 Number 3

HOW THEY DO IT IN MISSOURI

-- from the Missouri State Library News Letter --

STATE BOOKMOBILE SERVICE

State Bookmobile Service has kept us busy at headquarters and in the state this year. As you know, the Missouri Legislature appropriated $50,000 for the fiscal year, July 1, 1947 - June 30, 1948, to be used for bookmobile library service in areas without public libraries.

There are nine counties in our state without any kind of public library service. Counties to receive Bookmobile Service were chosen on a basis of need for library service; on the interest of the people in the project and on their willingness to work out such details as are necessary to make it possible for the staff to render good service to adults and children. It is necessary to form a county-wide committee which is responsible for scheduling the service in the various counties.

The following counties without any public library facilities were offered the service: Clinton, Sullivan, Schuyler, Moniteau, Gasconade, McDonald, Christian, Shannon, Reynolds and Harrison. Because of local conditions two counties, Christian and Shannon, found it impossible to form a county-wide committee to make necessary schedules and arrangements for the service. In addition to the eight counties without library service mentioned above, Douglas, Ozark, Oregon and Washington Counties were offered the service and assumed the responsibility for organizing committees to plan for the service.

Reports for the first six months of the service show greater use of the service than we had anticipated. In two visits to twelve counties, serving a total of 156,680 people, we circulated more than 80,000 books, held 312 film showings to more than 15,000 people, had 72 book talks for 2,500 patrons and played 1,150 records for more than 16,000 listeners. We are now completing the third visit of the Bookmobile and will visit the counties once more this fiscal year. Next year twelve other counties will be offered the service.

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Missouri appropriation for State Aid to Libraries AND State Bookmobile Services -- $203,500.00 ($0.054 per capita).

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Present Annual Appropriations of Some Southern States for Library Extension and/or State Aid to Libraries

	Total	Per Capita	Counties Without Libraries
TEXAS	$ 2,880.00	$0.0004	150
Alabama	90,000.00	0.032	22
Arkansas	140,180.00	0.072	36
Louisiana	175,000.00	0.074	34
North Carolina	303,219.00	0.084	7
Oklahoma	26,685.00	0.011	21
South Carolina	50,730.00	0.026	16
Virginia	50,000.00	0.018	32

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TEXAS STATE LIBRARY

Appropriation Request Submitted to Board of Control for Years Ending

	Aug. 31, 1950	Aug. 31, 1951
Main Library, including Archives, Work with Blind, Legislative Reference	$225,094.00	$190,094.00
Extension Division, including 6 bookmobile units for areas with inadequate or no library services	200,000.00	200,000.00
Records Administration Division	150,000.00	125,000.00
TOTAL	$575,094.00	$515,094.00

Present Annual Appropriations by Some Southern States for Library Extension and/or State Aid to Libraries

	Total	Per Capita	Counties Without Libraries
TEXAS	$ 2,880.00	$0.0004	180
Alabama	90,000.00	0.052	22
Arkansas	140,180.00	0.072	36
Louisiana	175,000.00	0.074	54
North Carolina	503,219.00	0.084	7
Oklahoma	28,885.00	0.011	21
South Carolina	50,750.00	0.025	16
Virginia	50,000.00	0.018	52

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TEXAS STATE LIBRARY

Appropriation Request Submitted to Board of Control for Years Ending Aug. 31, 1950 Aug. 31, 1951

Main Library, including Archives, Work with Blind, Legislative Reference	$225,084.00	$190,084.00
Extension Division, including 5 book-mobile units for areas with inadequate or no library services	200,000.00	200,000.00
Records Administration Division	150,000.00	125,000.00
TOTAL	$575,084.00	$515,084.00

Excerpts from a Travel Report by Mrs. Robert H. Wilson, Extension Director

"I have added five more libraries to the list of Texas County Libraries I have visited -- Wharton, Fort Bend, Montgomery, Rusk, and Gregg. In Wharton I was the guest of Flora Reeves, County Librarian, who took me on a rapid tour of branch libraries via the big red bookmobile. Miss Reeves and the bookmobile driver had been making Kodachrome slides of library services to schools and branches and a special series on the El Campo branch and the headquarters in Wharton. During my visit all the slides were shown at a staff meeting; they are to be used in group and community library talks. This is an excellent and relatively inexpensive method of presenting graphically the work and services of the library.

"In Rosenberg and in Conroe I found County Librarians Mary Lee Cooper and Katherine Ard busy buying and processing books for the newly organized Fort Bend and Montgomery county libraries. Limited services at temporary headquarters are being given in both cases. Permanent quarters are being planned and bookmobiles are on order with summer or fall delivery expected.

"At the end of a four-day visit in Rusk and Gregg counties, I was honored with a dinner party at the Gregg County Airport near Longview. Thirty-eight librarians, county and city officials, and library board members gathered from as far away as Henderson and Nacogdoches to discuss library problems of the East Texas area, and to hear my news of Federal Legislation possibilities, and of State Library and University of Texas Graduate Library School services, problems, and plans. Mary Louise Giraud, Rusk County Library, and Arless Nixon, Kilgore City Librarian, organized the program. I visited the Nicholson Memorial Library in Longview, the Gladewater Public Library, the Kilgore Public Library and its Liberty City branch, and the justly famous New London school libraries.

"Visiting East Texas was much like an Old Home Week for the area has attracted numbers of my former students from T.S.C.W."

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DO THESE APPLY TO ANY OF US?

"Tradition rather than aggressive experiment has all too often governed the administration of libraries. The position of the public library as a dynamic educational force in the community is usually a hope rather than a fact. The position of the school library as the 'heart of the school' likewise is more often a mere wish rather than truth." --The Michigan Librarian, March, 1947.

"Libraries are well below the median standard accepted by other professions, because librarians, in spite of their reverence for perfection in mechanical processes, distrust organizational coordination and efficiency." --Phyllis Osteen.

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Texas Libraries will not be issued during July and August.

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Texas State Library
Austin, Texas

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